

overturn doctor's orders. The changes could endanger a resident's health. Patients do not lose the right to the care prescribed by a personal physician simply because they have entered a nursing facility. When government inspectors substitute their judgment for that of a physician, nursing home providers must choose between the doctor's orders and government sanctions. An efficient and fair system requires that without fear of punishment, nursing home providers be allowed to follow a doctor's orders in keeping with the best interest of their residents. Optimal quality care means that patients should enter nursing homes with the assurance that the care prescribed by their physician is the care they will receive.

I hope this legislation fosters a constructive debate over the best ways to improve care for residents and that involved stakeholders can come together to reach consensus on the need for changes in the current system. I am pleased that already the Michigan Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, Lutheran Services in America, the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ and the Catholic Health Association support this legislation. I appreciate the input I have received from others as well and look forward to working with other key stakeholders in long term care and interested members of Congress. As Congress considers further improvements to the Medicare program, I urge my colleagues to support this important effort.

RECOGNIZING THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SIGNED A "PEACE PLEDGE" TO STOP THE SPREAD OF WAR TO IRAQ

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, more than 3,000 individuals from 40 countries and 48 states have signed the Campaign of Conscience Peace Pledge. "I support peace for Iraq. I grant permission to use my name and city publicly as an opponent of the ongoing economic and bombing war on Iraq, and of any escalation of that war." This Peace Pledge has been endorsed by the American Friends Service Committee, Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Education for Peace in Iraq Center, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Lutheran Peace Fellowship, Voices in the Wilderness, and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility.

A state breakdown of signatories is below with a representative sample from Ohio.

Priscilla Smith, Akron; Helen Thompson, Akron; Gary Blaine, Akron; Sara Cutlip, Akron; Tom Gentry, Jr., Akron; John Howell, Athens; Lynda Nyce, Bluffton; Jean Temple, Brunswick; Amy Spangler, Chillicothe; William Joiner, Cincinnati; Cynthia Maxey, Cleveland; Patti Flanagan, Cleveland Heights; Brenda Joyner, Cleveland Heights; Francis Chiappa, Cleveland Hts.; Mark Chupp, Cleveland Hts.; Melissa Bragg, Columbus; Connie Hammond, Columbus; Morton Saunders, Jr., Copley;

Nathan Ruggles, Cuyahoga Falls; Robert Williams, Cuyahoga Falls; Christina Irene,

Dayton; Jana Schroeder, Dayton; Ramona Nash, Dublin; Marion Kim, East Canton; Sarah Ile, Eaton; Joan Slonczewski, Gambier; Margaret Banning, Gambier; Susan Klein, Girard; William Nichols, Granville; Mike Pesa, Kent; Russell Andrews, Jr., Kent; Brad Clinehens, Maplewood; Michall Zabib, Massillon; Susan Mcgarvey, Nashport; Jane McCullam, Newbury;

Diana Roose, Oberlin; Sadie Taylor, Oberlin; Richard Taylor, Oberlin; Geraldine S. McNabb, Oberlin; Ryan Van Lenning, Oxford; Patrick G. Coy, Peninsula; Erin Nash, Shade; Lydia Kuttub Brenneman, St. Marys; Donna Schall, Stow; Sharon Havelak, Sylva; Matthew Wallace, Toledo; Nandor Szentkiralyi, Toledo; Robert Gibson, Warren; Elizabeth Gibson, Warren; Heather Brutz, Warrensville Heights; Kyle Kunst, Wooster; Rev. Richard Judy, Youngstown.

STATE BREAKDOWN

Alaska—8,
Alabama—8,
Arkansas—3,
Arizona—49,
California—236,
Colorado—73,
Connecticut—34,
District of Columbia—20,
Delaware—5,
Florida—66,
Georgia—26,
Hawaii—4,
Idaho—8,
Illinois—115,
Indiana—32,
Iowa—39,
Kansas—11,
Kentucky—13,
Louisiana—7,
Maine—20,
Maryland—74,
Massachusetts—160,
Michigan—61,
Minnesota—38,
Mississippi—2,
Missouri—46,
Montana—7,
North Carolina—86,
North Carolina,
North Dakota,
Nebraska—12,
New Hampshire—30,
New Jersey—62,
New Mexico—18,
Nevada—9,
New York—214,
Ohio—91,
Oklahoma—7,
Oregon—32,
Pennsylvania—213,
Puerto Rico—1,
Rhode Island—18,
South Carolina—9,
South Dakota—4,
Tennessee—11,
Texas—74,
Utah—4,
Virginia—35,
Vermont—20,
Washington—402,
Wisconsin—56,
West Virginia—1,
Unspecified—92.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, March 25, 2002, marks 181 years since

Greece declared its independence from the occupying Ottoman Empire. On March 25, 1821, the Greeks rose against the tyranny with an overwhelming conviction to defeat an overpowering foe. After 400 years of lingering repression and oppression, the brave elected to take a stand and fight for valued liberty and independence. Ultimately, freedom prevailed.

Since September 11, Greece has joined our effort to fight terrorism and bring those responsible for that heinous act to justice. We share the common goal of deterring future terrorist acts. Although it is and will be a difficult fight, unity and alliance with Greece is one of the keys to our ultimate victory.

The war of independence that Greece fought, and ultimately won, reminds us today that independence and liberty do not come without cost. We look to these shared values to help us endure these trying times.

Madam Speaker, we as Americans are inspired by the Greek people and recognize the struggles they have overcome to attain independence. I congratulate them on 181 years of freedom.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING WILLIAM CROWE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, William Crowe has received the Excellence in Education award from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; and

Whereas, William Crowe has been with Buckeye Local High School for 29 years; and Whereas, William Crowe has worked to bring the joy of learning into the lives of his students; and

Whereas, William Crowe must be commended for his service to the community, taking on numerous leadership roles for the betterment all;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing William Crowe as a recipient of the 2002 Excellence in Education Award.

RECOGNIZING THE USS "RALPH TALBOT" FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time to recognize the meritorious service of the destroyer USS *Ralph Talbot* during World War II.

Mr. Frank Urbanowicz, who lives in Janesville, Wisconsin, has worked tirelessly to establish formal recognition of the destroyer's actions through the Presidential Unit Citation. While the Navy has not acted, I would like to share with you a brief history of the destroyer and the significance of its actions.

Early in her career, the USS *Ralph Talbot* entered World War II during the attack on Pearl Harbor. The destroyer reacted immediately, retaliating with gunfire and later patrolling the area in search of enemy submarines.